BOOM! STUDIOS™

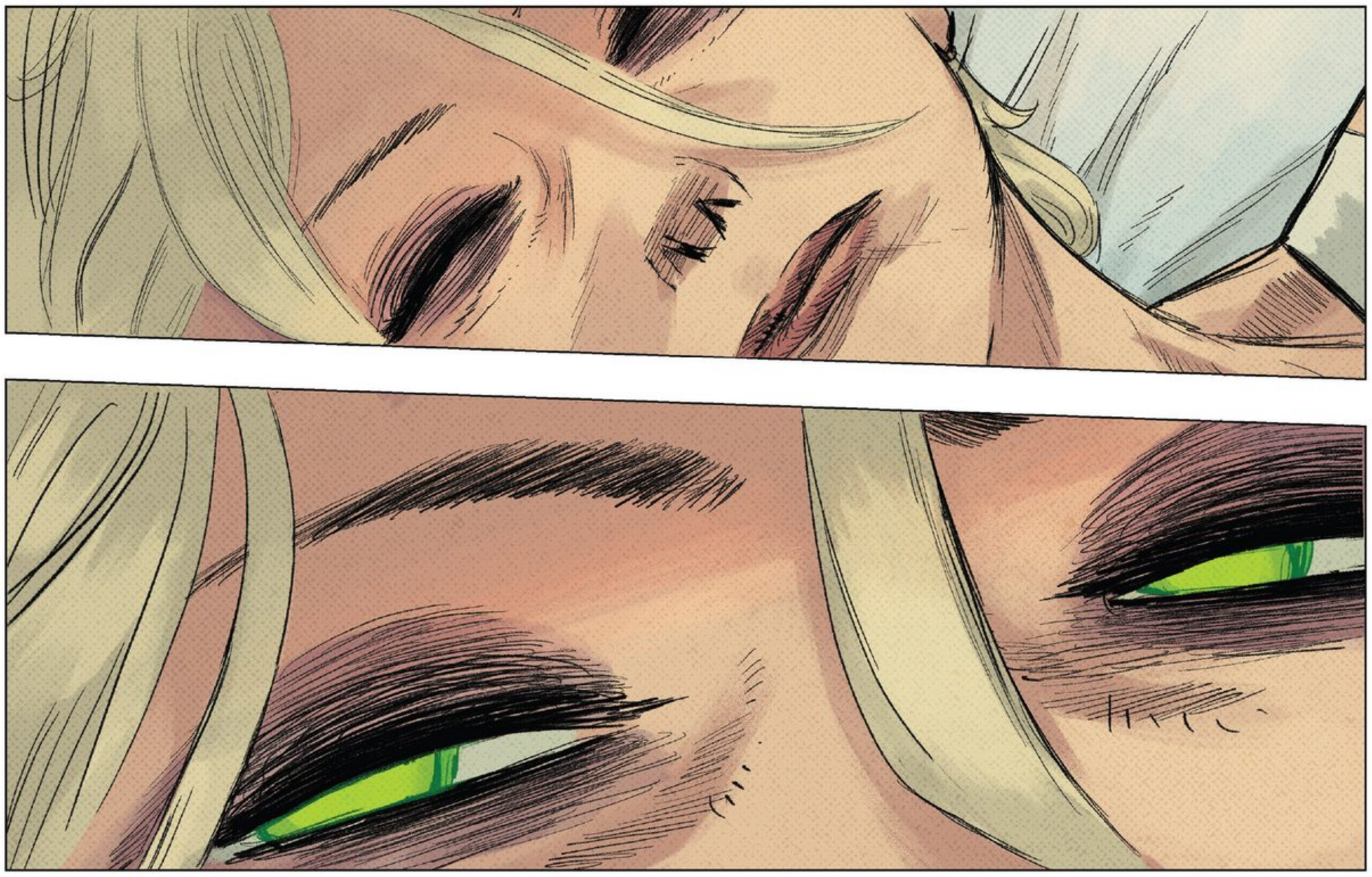
JAMES TYNION IV

WERTHER DELL'EDERA

MIQUEL MUERTO

Nº 26

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN™



YOU'RE AWAKE.

YEAH.

YOU PASSED OUT IN THE CAR.

I FIGURED.

FUCK.

PROBABLY BRUISED SOME RIBS. BUT YOUR ARM IS STITCHED UP NOW.

YOU DO THAT?

MY MOM.

IT'S NICE WORK.

I'LL TELL HER.

WHERE ARE WE?

MY PARENTS' PLACE ON THE RESERVATION. ABOUT 30 MILES OUT FROM TRIBULATION.

GABI?

MY MOM IS LOOKING AFTER HER IN THE OTHER ROOM.

GOOD.

I NEED YOU TO EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED BACK THERE. SOMETHING ***INVISIBLE*** RIPPED YOUR ARM OPEN AND THREW YOU INTO A WALL.

DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YOU NEED ANYTHING EXPLAINED.

LOOK...

I ALREADY EXPLAINED IT ALL TO YOU. YOU JUST WEREN'T LISTENING.

MONSTERS.

YEAH. MONSTERS. FUCKING MONSTERS.

AND WHAT WAS THAT ***PHONE CALL?*** THE ONE IN THE CAR?

THE CUTTER WOMAN IS COMING. YOU'VE BEEN ASLEEP FOR HOURS. SHE COULD ALREADY BE IN NEW MEXICO.
YEAH, I KNOW.

YOU KNOW WHAT?

WASN'T TALKING TO YOU.
HERE. HELP ME UP.
YOU NEED TO REST.
THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT.

ERICA, WHAT'S WRONG?

EVERYTHING.

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN

THIS IS A STUPID GAME.

WHAT'S STUPID ABOUT THIS GAME?

YOU JUST PUT CARDS DOWN.

THAT'S ***EVERY*** CARD GAME! THEY'RE ALL JUST PUTTING CARDS DOWN.

BUT THIS ONE IS BORING.

IT'S ***WAR.*** IT'S A CLASSIC.

I'M BORED. DON'T YOU HAVE TV OR SOMETHING?

WE HAVE BOOKS.
UGGGGH.
TELL ME ABOUT IT, KID.
I NEED TO RUN BY THE BAR. GOING TO PUT A SIGN UP THAT WE'RE GOING TO BE CLOSED A FEW DAYS.
A FEW DAYS?
JOHNNY.
MOM, WHAT'S THE LONGEST DAD CLOSED THE BAR FOR?
NEVER DID. NOT EVEN ON HIS BIRTHDAY.

NOT EVEN ON HIS BIRTHDAY. YOU HEAR THAT, RIQUI?

YEAH. I HEAR THAT.

IS THE YOUNG LADY OKAY?

SHE TRIED GETTING UP, BUT IT DIDN'T TAKE.

SHE'S GOING TO SLEEP A BIT MORE. I DON'T WANT ANYBODY GOING IN THERE.

SERIOUSLY, JOHNNY. DON'T LET GABI IN THERE, OKAY?

WHY CAN'T I GO IN THERE?

I DON'T TRUST HER. I DON'T KNOW WHO SHE IS, AND I THINK SHE COULD GET US ALL IN A LOT OF TROUBLE.

THEN WHY THE FUCK IS SHE ON YOUR OLD BED? WHY IS SHE IN OUR PARENTS' HOUSE?

SOME NEW *GIRLFRIEND?* HUH? IS THAT IT?

JOHNNY. QUIET.

SNAP

YOU THINK YOU'RE SOME *HOT SHIT* THAT YOU CAN COME BACK HERE AND BOSS US AROUND LIKE YOU RUN THE SHOW.

DAD *NEVER* SHOULD HAVE LEFT THAT BAR TO YOU.

YEAH, HE SHOULD HAVE LEFT IT TO *YOU,* THEN? YOU WERE GOING TO POUR WHISKEY FROM YOUR *CELL BLOCK?*

ENOUGH.

I'LL BE BACK IN A COUPLE OF HOURS.

PROBABLY *IS* HER BITCH GIRLFRIEND.

OKAY. YEAH, THIS IS BORING. I'M GOING TO GO GRAB A TV AND MY XBOX FROM MY PLACE. WE CAN PLAY THAT ZOMBIE GAME. COOL?

YEAH!

YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO GO IN THERE, OKAY?
OKAY.

DON'T RUN OFF, EITHER.

FINE.

TELL MOM I'LL BE BACK IN TEN MINUTES, ALRIGHT?

YEAH. OKAY.

YOU NEED TO LEAVE.

I CAN BARELY STAND.

THEN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PROTECT YOURSELF.

THERE'S STILL WORK TO DO. THE *DUPLICITYPE*...

YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO OVERPOWER IT.

SO I'M JUST SUPPOSED TO LET MORE PEOPLE DIE? I'M SUPPOSED TO RUN AWAY?

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE CUTTER WOMAN COMES TO THIS TOWN?

WHAT DO YOU THINK SHE WILL DO TO YOUR FRIENDS HERE? TO THE GIRL?

I KNOW.

YOU CAN'T SAVE THEM. YOU CAN ONLY SAVE *YOURSELF.*

AND WHEN HAS THAT EVER BEEN *YOUR* PRIORITY?

IT'S GETTING STRONGER WITH EVERY LIFE IT TAKES.

I KNOW.

YOU CANNOT FIGHT THE ORDER OF ST. GEORGE *AND* A MONSTER THAT WOULD TAKE A PACK OF HUNTERS TO TRAP AND KILL.

IF YOU STAY, YOU WILL DIE.

MAYBE.

IF YOU STAY, THE *GIRL* WILL DIE. AT THE CLAWS OF THE MONSTER, OR THE KNIVES OF THE ORDER.

I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN.

YOU CAN BARELY STAND.

FUCK YOU.

KID, HELP ME CARRY SHIT.

YEAH. OKAY.

I GET THE GOOD CONTROLLER.

FINE.

I'M GOING TO KICK YOUR *ASS* AT THIS GAME.

The Luck of Irish

CLOSED
X THE
WEEKEND

CLOSED
X THE
WEEKEN

BZZZ
BZZZ

Carter Thomas

CARTER... I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING RIGHT NOW.
YEAH? YOU KNOW WHAT?

I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A FEW THINGS MYSELF.

WE'VE GOT ***MORE BODIES*** IN TRIBULATION.

DOWN AT THE ***WARM WATER LODGE.***

YEAH, THAT'S WHY I'M CALLING. THERE'S SOME ***SECURITY FOOTAGE*** OF YOU PULLING THAT BLONDE LADY WITH THE EYES INTO YOUR CAR.

LOOKS LIKE SHE'S COVERED IN ***BLOOD.***

YEAH.

WITH GABI.

YEAH.

FROM A ***MURDER SCENE.*** AND THEN YOU DIDN'T FUCKING CALL THE ***POLICE.*** EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE KNOWN THE FUCKING ***SHERIFF*** SINCE WE WERE IN FUCKING ***GRADE SCHOOL.***

LOOK. I'M TRYING TO MAKE SENSE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE. I JUST NEED A FEW HOURS.

NO.

I NEED YOU TO COME DOWN TO THE STATION. I WANT YOU TO BRING THAT WOMAN, ERICA, WITH YOU.

AND I NEED YOU TO BRING GABI.

CARTER...

DON'T TAKE THAT TONE WITH ME, RIQUI. YOU KNOW HOW ***FUCKED*** ALL OF THIS IS. IF YOU DON'T COME IN, I'M GOING TO PUT AN A.P.B. OUT ON ALL THREE OF YOU.

ONE HOUR. DO YOU HEAR ME?

YEAH.

FUCK.

SHERIFF THOMAS?
PLEASE TELL ME SOMEBODY FROM THE STATE IS HERE.

WELL, UH. NOT EXACTLY...
SHE'S DEFINITELY NOT FROM ANYWHERE AROUND HERE.

YOU MUST BE THE SHERRIFF.
YEAH.

CARTER THOMAS?
YEAH, THAT'S ME.

LOOKS LIKE THEY DO HAVE THOSE ***HANDSOME COWBOYS*** OUT HERE IN THE WILD WEST, JUST LIKE IN THE MOVIES.

MA'AM...I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TO TELL ME WHO YOU ARE. THIS IS AN ACTIVE CRIME SCENE.

OH, I KNOW. THAT'S WHY I'M HERE. YOU'VE BEEN PUTTING IN CALLS TO THE STATE AUTHORITIES, WHO FLOATED THE CASE FILES UP TO MY OFFICE IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON?

INTERPOL, DEAR. THE U.S. BRANCH. WE'VE HAD OUR EYES ON THIS ONE FOR A WHILE.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERPOL
U S
SPECIAL AGENT
7656

I'M SORRY, WHO ARE YOU?

MY NAME IS DETECTIVE INSPECTOR CHARLOTTE CUTTER. YOU CAN CALL ME ***CUTTER.***

I HUNT MONSTERS. AND YOU'VE GOT A NASTY MONSTER RIGHT HERE IN COWBOY COUNTRY.

DID YOU SAY YOU HUNT *MONSTERS?*

I'M AFRAID SO.

HER NAME IS *ERICA SLAUGHTER.*

SHE'S A RUTHLESS KILLER OF CHILDREN.

I NEED YOUR HELP TO *STOP HER* BEFORE SHE KILLS AGAIN.

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN™

"THE GIRL AND THE HURRICANE"
PART ONE

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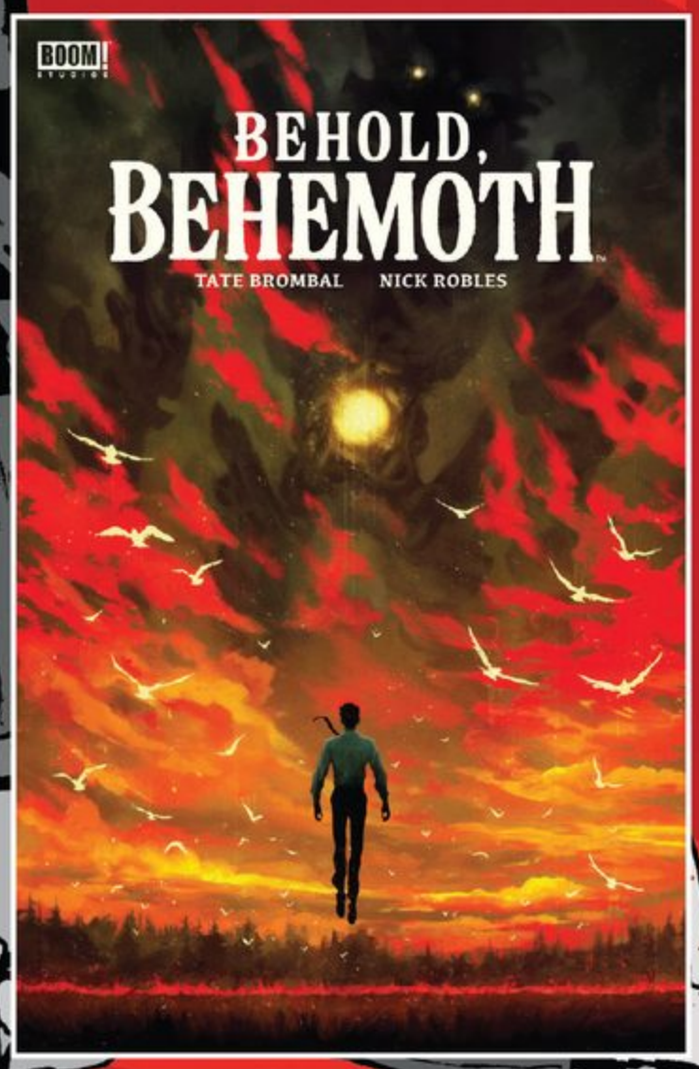

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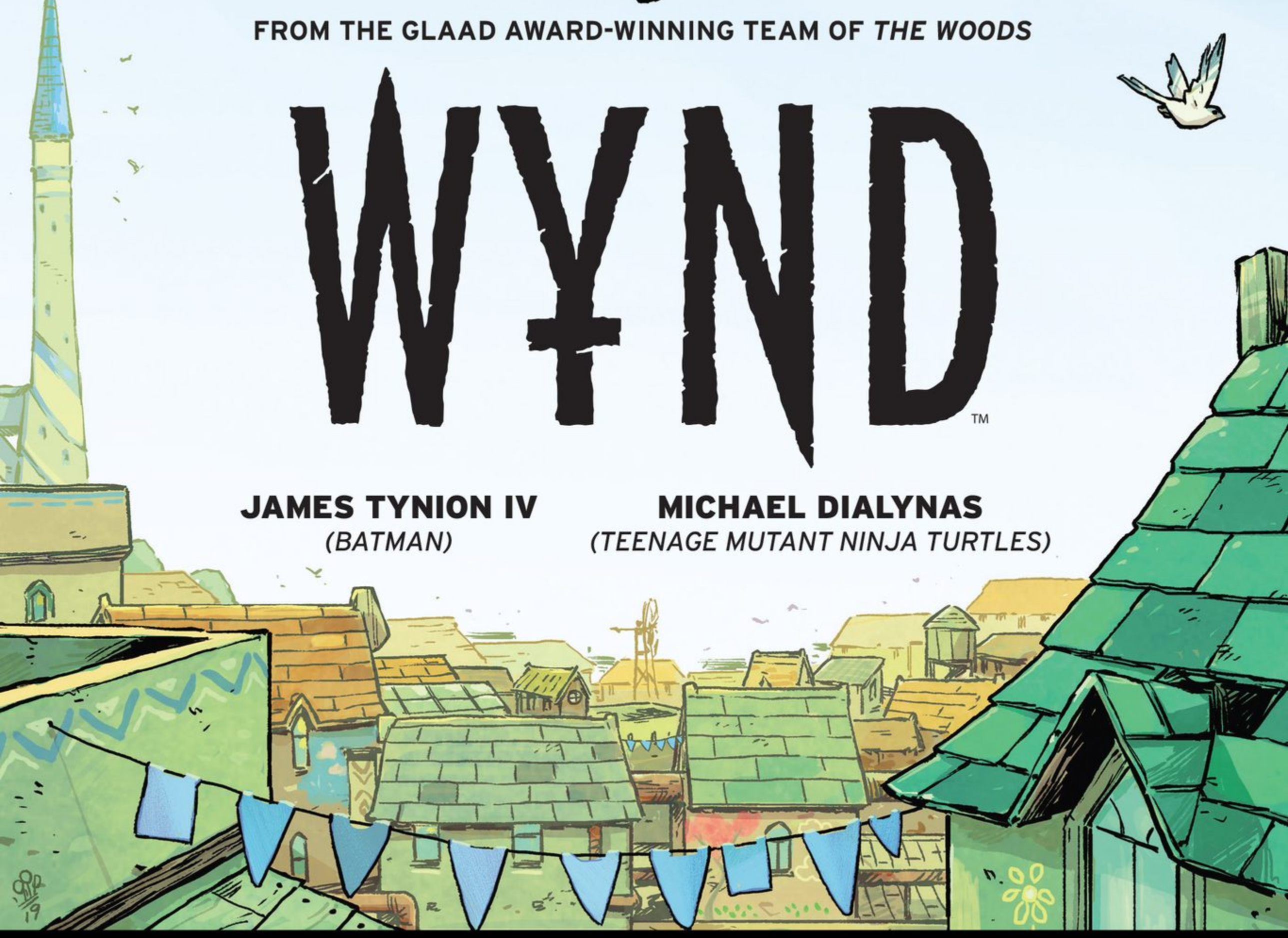

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